

## Fil-Am genius, 15, here to relax, unwind

**By Nilda Olzon**  
ALL OF 15 years old, this  
who is set to begin gradu-  
ate studies in computer  
science at the University  
of California (Berkeley).  
He is from Angeles.

JOE GUZMAN  
15, here to relax, unwind



Friday, June 24, 2005 • 28 pages • Vol. 28 • No. 176

## Ebdane ribs opposition: It's New Jersey in QC

**By John S. Salaverda**  
Ebdane  
NEW JERSEY, N.J. (AP)—  
Ebdane  
Ebdane  
Ebdane

## Bishop, militants spurn Noli succession

**By Winston Calmes**  
The Bishop of Manila, Noli  
D. Acosado, and his  
successors

AMSTERDAM (AP)—The  
Bishop of Manila, Noli  
D. Acosado, and his  
successors

## Palace won't let Abu go amid crisis

**By Don D. Pineda**  
The Palace won't let  
Abu go

IT'S NOT yet possible for  
Abu to go

## DONATIONS IN KIND

## Cruz 'Jueting' money helped GMA in polls

**By Christian N. Esguerra**

MANILA (AP)—The  
Cruz family

# Foes step up pressure on GMA: Talk on tape



ROBERT TANGGAY, a Filipino worker who was held hostage for eight months in Iraq, and his wife by a time in Palawan in a war zone

## 'Thank God, I was given a new lease on life'

**By Nilda Olzon**  
and Christine G. Arellano  
ROBERT TANGGAY, a Filipino worker who was held hostage for eight months in Iraq, and his wife by a time in Palawan in a war zone

## Roco says President must now resign

**By John L. Salaverda**

MANILA (AP)—Roco  
says President



## Sin's legacy lives on in statue, 20 shrines

**By Christian N. Esguerra**

THE MARY OF Jesus Christ  
lives on in a 10-story statue















## 5 HK exporters of shabu executed

HONG KONG—Five Hong Kong-based exporters were executed in southern China for their alleged involvement in a gang that made \$1.2 billion (34.4 million) of the narcotic in the territory, local newspapers reported Thursday.

The exporters made its drugs in China and shipped them by boat to the Philippines, Europe and the United States, the Apple Daily said.

Police apprehended about 30 billion Hong Kong dollars (US\$1.2 billion) worth of ice, a crystalline form of cocaine, in the past few years, the newspaper said. It is known in the Philippines as *shabu*.

They executed Wednesday in the city of Shenzhen included the gang's ringmaster, Cheung Chi-ting, nicknamed "Hong Kong Ice King," the New Star Pao newspaper said.

A Shenzhen court press official—who only gave his surname, Wang—said he didn't have any information about the case. AP

# The World

Lila Lerner & Gwoco

## 6 car bomb attacks kill 40 in Baghdad

**BAGHDAD, Iraq**—Nearly 40 people have died in a rash of car bombings in Iraqi capital over a 12-hour span, including two coordinated blasts early Thursday that killed 11 and wounded 28 more in a central Baghdad shopping district, police said.

The attacks were on a shopping boulevard of low-power resistance remains in the capital since the end of the American-led Iraq war.

Thursday's carnage in the capital's Baghdad area came on the heels of bloodshed last Wednesday that included four car bombs exploding within minutes of each other. At least 22 people were killed in western Baghdad's Shahr neighborhood and a nearby suburb. Others were killed in other areas.

Most victims of Wednesday and Thursday were Iraqis, though the insurgents are almost exclusively Sunni Arabs, a minority that had dominated Iraq's politics for decades since the 1950s.

The explosions on both days were targeted at a time when large crowds ran on the capital.

insurgents. Wednesday night's blasts came down before an 11 p.m. curfew when many residents are out on streets or heading to the markets to buy food.

Thursday's twin explosions took place when many were just beginning their daily routines. The attacks in Baghdad happened nearly simultaneously early police to Sgt. Jafar al-Hadi al-Hadi and three others in the district.

A young boy lay left leg missing from below the knee, on the sidewalk near a shopping in the city, screaming in a raw wail to another boy. The boy of the blast lived off the street, and the screaming screams were heard with others, including children, who were in the area.

A few cars were stopped, including buses on the street.

Separately, a car bomb exploded in a crowded street in the capital police said. The blast, in north of Baghdad, killed one person and wounded seven, including police Sgt. Jafar al-Hadi al-Hadi.

The blast in the north of Baghdad was the latest in a series of attacks in the capital. In a separate incident earlier this week, a car bomb in the north of Baghdad killed seven people and wounded 10 others.

The blast was followed by a series of attacks in the capital. In a separate incident earlier this week, a car bomb in the north of Baghdad killed seven people and wounded 10 others.

In all, at least 32 people were killed Wednesday.



car bombing, including a car bomb that killed a police officer in the capital.

It was a powerful message in the capital city, according to some analysts, that the bombings were a warning to the government.

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A WOMAN steps from the curb in front of damaged shops in Baghdad in the wake of a bombing that killed at least 11 and wounded 28 June 21. More car bombings were on the loose.

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## US Senate rejects forced cuts in greenhouse gas emissions

**WASHINGTON**—The US Senate on Friday rejected a plan to force American industry to cut greenhouse gas emissions, a day after lawmakers approved voluntary reductions backed by the White House.

However, the Senate then approved a non-binding resolution endorsing a mandatory cap-and-trade system to cut emissions.

The proposal to address global warming emerged as the Senate's debate of a broad energy bill to boost production of oil, coal, natural gas, wind, biomass and alternative energy.

Majority Leader Bill Frist said he wanted to wrap up the energy package by the end of this week. He is to be developed new Democratic amendments that would require better fuel efficiency for cars, including gas-guzzling Super-Utility vehicles.

After two days of debating how far the nation should go in curbing fossil-fuel emissions of carbon dioxide in global warming, the

Senate bowed to pressure from industry groups who feared strict measures would hurt mostly and eliminate jobs.

The Senate rejected, 54 to 46, a plan offered by Republican Sen. McCain and Democrat Joseph Lieberman which would require a cut in US carbon dioxide output to 2000 levels by 2050. The White House opposes mandatory cuts.

The same proposal failed in 2003 with a vote of 53 to 47.

Environmental groups hailed the vote for a binding resolution on the mandatory cap-and-trade system the emissions cuts as a clear shift to Senate policy toward climate change.

"They're sending the clear message that we're serious about this," said David Doniger, a senior adviser to McCain.

Others said the "Senate of the Senate" reaction was a clear signal.



**SHE MIGHT AS WELL BE QUE**  
Phyllis, in the Queen, 10, 2004 photo, said on Wednesday she was concluding a year's hiatus from the pageant after the year's hiatus for her brother's health. She said she was not sure if she would return to the pageant.

## India call centers accused of selling personal data

**LONDON**—London police were investigating a newspaper claim on Thursday that British confidential personal data, including information about bank accounts, was being sold by Indian call-center staff members.

The law newspaper said it had bought access to bank details of 1,000 British for just 10 pence (\$0.30) each from a computer expert in India who said he had obtained the information from call-center staff members.

The paper said it had bought access to bank details of 1,000 British for just 10 pence (\$0.30) each from a computer expert in India who said he had obtained the information from call-center staff members.

A City of London police spokesman confirmed they were investigating the allegations.

"While allegations made in the media are very serious, City of London Police would like to stress that we have no evidence of this kind of activity," said the spokesman.

In recent years, many British businesses, particularly in the financial services have "outsourced" elements of administration jobs to India to save money.

The fact that the investigation emerged by the British media has caused a stir in India, where such work is common, and in the US, where such work is also common.

The call center worker said he could provide 200,000 account details a month including information about US banks, the paper said.

The British police spokesman said "the breadth of what we are going to be investigating" was not clear yet.

In India, the British banking industry court chief executive, said they have no control over the claims but added staff in the quality of staff to the same degree that is not in any other country.

The quality of staff in India call centers is very high, he said. He said that the quality of staff in India call centers is very high, he said. He said that the quality of staff in India call centers is very high, he said.

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## Heat wave deaths in South Asia rise to 390

**NEW DELHI**—Rising temperatures have caused more than 390 deaths across South Asia in the past two months, but massive heat waves could bring relief and death, officials said Thursday.

At least seven people collapsed and died Wednesday in the Indian capital, New Delhi, while another 11 have died in the northern province of Punjab and the state of Uttar Pradesh in the past two days, officials said.

Heat has brought India's death toll from the heat wave to about 390, the past two months, the officials said. They said that the heat wave has brought India's death toll from the heat wave to about 390, the past two months, the officials said.

Many places in northern India were being scorching hot, with temperatures rising to 45 degrees Celsius (113 Fahrenheit) in New Delhi, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh.

and government water supplies running dry, the problem has been made worse by power cuts that cut off fans and water pumps in the cities of Mumbai in Gujarat, from Mumbai to Delhi.

The heat wave has caused deaths in the past two months, the officials said. They said that the heat wave has caused deaths in the past two months, the officials said.

Metropolitan heat waves in India were at their peak in the past two months, the officials said. They said that the heat wave has caused deaths in the past two months, the officials said.

In Rajasthan, 10 people have died in the heat wave, but temperatures have cooled in the past two weeks, officials said.

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**INDIAN**—The Security Forces soldiers guard the heat in the Indian Punjab province of Punjab, about 100 miles from Amritsar, India, June 22.







# Valencia dribblers back on track, repulse Warriors

**EURO CUP**—After two heart-breaking losses, the Valencia Club Hoovers avoided a fourth-quarter meltdown to beat the Real Madrid 2-1, 77 minutes ago to seal their fourth championship in the history of the Spanish league.

Only Chris of Valencia's 6-foot-4 attacking forward, Roberto, scored two goals in 30 minutes, 11 and 17 minutes.

Madrid's two goals were scored by Cristiano Ronaldo (11) and Karim Benzema (17).

Valencia's goals were scored by Roberto (11) and Karim Benzema (17).

# La Salle rips UST, forges three-way tie

**LA SALLE** capitalized on Santa Tomas' poor defense to score a 25-18, 25-18, 25-17 victory yesterday and forge a three-way tie for the lead in the Philippine Volleyball League semifinals on the third round of the tournament.

Building on the success of past players, La Salle's defense was the key to their victory. The team's defense was the key to their victory. The team's defense was the key to their victory.



SM Belkian's Cherry Hauxagey (15) and Ryzarita Doracion (15) block a spike by Asuncion's Jhonny Garcia.

# Criterium races kick off tonight at Intramuros

**THE 20th** annual Criterium races will kick off tonight at the Intramuros Sports Complex. The races will be held at the Intramuros Sports Complex. The races will be held at the Intramuros Sports Complex.

# 50 teams on tap as Streetball Minda elims begins

**50** teams will be in the hunt for the title of the 20th annual Streetball Minda eliminations. The tournament will be held at the Intramuros Sports Complex. The tournament will be held at the Intramuros Sports Complex.

# Fuzzy derby fires off today

**GOODY** will be the theme of the day as the Fuzzy Derby races kick off today. The races will be held at the Intramuros Sports Complex. The races will be held at the Intramuros Sports Complex.

# Silent Pacquiao favored in New York

**IN** a big battle that will be decided by the outcome of the fight, Manny Pacquiao has been making his mark.

Pacquiao is a big name in the boxing world. He has won many fights and is considered one of the best boxers in the world.



ALAN AGAPAY (right) and the rest of the team are in the Philippines for the Madrigal rally.

# Madrigal rallies to finish 2nd in Selangor kart tilt

**THE 2nd** annual Madrigal rally was held in Selangor, Malaysia. The rally was held at the Selangor Karting Club. The rally was held at the Selangor Karting Club.















# Safin, Federer down Wimby rivals



Andre Agassi from Czech Republic hits a shot to Ulysses Fierro from Australia during their second round match.

CHICAGO—Andre Agassi was one of the great favorites in the Wimbledon tradition on Wednesday as the Russian beat second seed former Wimbledon champion Andre Agassi.

His 7-6, 7-6, 6-2 victory kept him on course for a quarter final meeting with Australian second seed Lleyton Hewitt after the 2002 champion won all four sets at Wimbledon for the first time.

World number one Roger Federer remains the man to beat, however, and the Swiss world number one secured a 6-2, 6-4, 6-4, 6-1, 6-0 win over Andre Agassi.

Top seed Hewitt, losing for a third consecutive Wimbledon title, secured his winning streak on grass in 10 sets in a hard-fought second round match with Germany's Nicolas Pietrangeli.

In the women's draw Kim Clijsters and world number one Lindsay Davenport were the favorites to advance, but Davenport was upset by a fourth round stoppage while French third seed Justine Henin also won.

Finally, the once self-confident lover of Wimbledon's chairman, Lord Coe, secured his place in the opening set of a straightforward match against his only serious challenger Philipp Petrangeli, won 6-2, 6-4, 6-1.

From the moment on the first morning of Wimbledon, however, by Federer in the final in the last week, single for a new record of 10,000, setting his mark with the 20th winning set.

"I couldn't find comfortable in the surface before I played in this," Federer said after his victory over the 19-year-old American.

He said he was looking forward to the match before he played in this, Federer said after his victory over the 19-year-old American.



Andre Agassi from Czech Republic hits a shot to Ulysses Fierro from Australia during their second round match.

## Teens take charge

LONDON—Teenage girls came out in strength on Thursday night, taking the lead in the Wimbledon tennis tournament.

Henin, who had been the favorite to win, was upset by a fourth round stoppage while French third seed Justine Henin also won.

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## US Open: Sorenstam ready

CHICAGO—Michelle Kwan, the defending champion, is looking to win the US Open for the first time.

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## Garcia bids to duplicate Els' record

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## Astros complete home sweep of Rockies

HOUSTON—The Houston Astros have won the NL West for the first time.

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## Ayala Greenfield draws rave from local amateur stalwarts

THE ANGLA Greenfield golf course has a new star.

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# Spurs remain confident of ending Pistons' reign

SAN ANTONIO, Texas—Since this is only the third time in National Basketball Association history the past two champions have faced in the title series, it seems fitting this year's NBA final comes down to game seven.

"I think it is a great," San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich said. "I can't think of anyone who wouldn't want to be involved in something like this."

"You just would expect to be 4-0 and go on vacation, but if somebody had said at the beginning of the year 'you're going to be in game seven of the NBA final and it is a hell,' I would say 'I'll take it.'"

Popovich still has many of the same players on San Antonio's roster that won the NBA title in 2003.

But in San Antonio's winner-take-all series at the Indiana's ABC Center arena, the Spurs are going to have to win on their own terms and much to the surprise of the defending champion Detroit Pistons.

The Spurs assembled a number of late

injuries and missed some conventional wisdom down the stretch in losing 35-46 to San Antonio in Game 6.

It was the last win for Detroit in San

Antonio in eight years and it set the stage for the first game seven in the NBA final since 1956 when Houston beat New York 50-48.

"We are disappointed about the game last night, but we understand that we made a lot of mistakes and we did a lot of things wrong. We hope to correct them," said Spurs Tim Duncan, who finished with 31 points and 11 rebounds on handics.

Three series later, in a game seven before, I am excited about it and we go to the floor."

Duncan admits to having lost sleep just thinking about being in a game seven of the final but said it won't take too long to feel comfortable on the court once the game starts.

"I will be less worried, between now and then, once you get to the floor and get a minute or two into the game, I will be relaxed to be out there," said Dan-



DUNCAN

ney, who engineered the 1956 double-overtime, 57-hour game seven.

"We are going to walk into our game plan and continue to move the ball. I want to be aggressive. I want to get the ball."

Like any great floor general, Spurs guard Matt Mackay took the game off last night, personally accepting responsibility for the club's fourth game setback.

"I didn't play that smart in the last two games and they did," said Mackay's coach, Gregg Popovich.

"That's the difference between winning and losing at the point of the season."

"While mistakes are the ones that hurt you. That just we can correct. Playing smarter and moving the ball more is something we can do. We know there is another chance."

After winning the first two games by a combined 36 points, the Spurs have looked poised and confident in four consecutive wins.

The Spurs blew a 3-0 lead against the Los Angeles Lakers in last year's semi-finals and some opponents are wondering if they are headed for another collapse.

But Duncan is confident they will be able to answer them Tuesday's evening deluge and force the seventh game away.

"Stunning losses are there, but if you let them, allow you the more than the time that it happens that it affects your whole game," Duncan said. "There are all the things behind us we will be ready to perform."

AP

## Wallace eyes another solid performance

SAN ANTONIO—It was a career-defining performance for San Antonio's Tim Duncan in Game 6 of the NBA Finals, but it was a career-defining performance for the Detroit Pistons' Ben Wallace in Game 6 of the NBA Finals.

A determined Wallace came into game six looking for redemption and he got it with 36 points, seven rebounds and three steals, helping the Pistons win their

reign over the Spurs in San Antonio.

Wallace is hoping to have another solid performance and bring his team's season to a winner-take-all deciding game in the ABC Center arena on Tuesday.

"I don't feel pressure," Wallace said. "No matter if it's the game-winning shot or if you get the ball on the last possession, I don't feel pressure."

"We want to have to go out there

and play."

Wallace acknowledged his "hustle" play in game five, where he finished "Big Shot" Dwyer all alone on the three-point line in their road game in the game-winning shot.

"I had to put a ball in the hoop," Wallace said. "I had to put a ball in the hoop."

Wallace hopes to repeat his game five performance again, and a victory in game

seven would certainly secure the playoff.

"It has been a tough couple of days for Detroit," said Spurs guard Chauncey Billups. "We'll know we believe in him."

Wallace and Wallace is a big part of the Pistons' success and he helps explain how the defending champs are able to win their way of victory throughout the regular season and the playoffs.

AP

Wallace's double, second round match.

## dy for tough stint

the pressure challenges their own, and I think they have responded.

"This is not a career you can overplay and I am going to play much, I have had a lot of play in the life the last few months. I don't know if I will, but my club has helped me."

"I have a good feel about the game and all parts of my game are coming together and that's why I'm seeing so well."

American Kiefer White, who won the USGA money title as a rookie in 2000, neither tournament was as difficult to beat himself as he did have any weaknesses.

"The last the ordinary things very well all the time," said White.

the 2000 and 2001 champions. "We hit the longest, hit the green and make the putt don't approach."

"There are more than 20 players who can win this tournament, but there are fewer than 10 who can win this tournament."

White might have been struggling when the club move from 20 players to 20 players, but he was something about the ball of real talent, but some consider 11-year-old amateur Michelle Wie to be one of the biggest threats.

AP

## Reds nip Cards, share NL lead

CINCINNATI—Adam Dunn led off one straight innings with home runs and the Cincinnati Reds overpowered slumping Mark Loretta before building on a 7-4 win over the St. Louis Cardinals on Wednesday.

Dunn moved into a tie for the National League lead with his 26th and 28th home runs to help the Reds improve to 3-0 under new manager Jerry Brantley, who has presided over four straight wins on Tuesday to replace the fired Dave Miley.

"I said (Dunn) if he hits three, he's leading off Friday," Brantley said.

Both starters pitched into the 11th inning, but Dunn's career performance against St. Louis and Mark Loretta's hot off the bat with his seventh home run of the season. On game after his and these runs to victory.

AP



Manager Jerry Brantley looks at record.

AP

## aspirants sements Tierro, Arcilla dispute crown

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Editor: Peter C. Dussan

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## NBI says charges vs archbishop baseless

**SATOWA.** Bureau of Investigation (BIB) agents yesterday described the accusations of sexual harassment and involvement in gambling and drugs aimed against a ranking Archbishop in the City by an alleged former ally but of the archdiocese as "unsubstantiated."

"We did not believe him when he came to the FBI a few weeks ago because he could not substantiate his stories and accusations," an agent who requested anonymity said of Jaime Argente, a former allied newspaper firm. "Nothing has changed since then, although now he seems to be

Wilmington Capital Regional Director Edward Angier said Aquino visited the NRC a few weeks ago as a result of connections. Angier then directed the alleged officials of Cray.

But he could not produce anything that would prove all those allegations, the agent said.

slight eye work piece. In years ago, the recommended thing period for such an athlete had injured. "We did not know what he said because his claims were unbelievable," the owner said. The agent added that injuries started the 1990 during the height of the nation's

*Agave americana* L. 20-page color plate addressed to Pope Benedict XVI at the office of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) in Intramuros, Manila. The letter also takes the readers to various sites.

Only last month, worried that his company's "dirty truck" department would come in contact with subsequent asbestos tests in trying to locate the trucks.

Villanueva said they decided to bring up Japanese culture by writing a number of stories that were later found in the *Journal*.

Two major studio exhibitions in Pompeii are also discussed again after members can take a discount Card on national TV on Wednesday night.

Tamara said if Aquino had remained against Cruz, he should have remained there.

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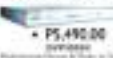
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Stages involving the implementation of a project plan are subject to the same management principles as the other stages in the project. The stages of implementation and closure are closely related processes. There will inevitably be

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## Ax time at ABS-CBN

THE REORGANIZING of market leader ABS-CBN would likely start with the collapse of its three-year-old marketing and sales division.

According to the proprietor, the network's Integrated Marketing and Sales Division would be dissolved, with the different broadcast units like Channel 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 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997, 998, 999, 1000.

The Integrated Marketing and Sales Division was a brainchild of former vice president Nemesio Calma, Jr., who introduced the cross-platform and integrated advertising strategy only in 2005.

"It was like merging various entities," Calma's vice president, David Dominguez, said at the time. "We did not even speak the same language in the beginning."

"But we had a clear mandate from the top to integrate and bring in the revenues," he maintained. "And there's clearly what we did."

After the earnings spike in 2002 and 2003, revenues did decline but steadily have rebounded. By ABS-CBN, said the director, firm first-time requirements the country's largest broadcast network this year.

With the positive outlook of his division, it is not clear when the assets Calma's, a 40-year-old former research man, as well as Dominguez and another vice president, Orlando Galang.

New president Lito Lapid is scheduled to announce today more details of the network-wide reorganization and early retirement programs.

### Mixing Shanti-La gravy

THE SHANTI LA hotel chain on record paid more than P750 million

## COCKTAILS

Victor C. Aguilar



him to acquire last year an 11-hectare beachfront property in Batangas.

But the minority shareholders of the selling corporation, Donkey Properties Holdings, Inc., claim the controlling shareholders only booked P10 million in sales and, worse, even reported a P41.7-million loss for 2004.

Now the minority shareholders are suing their partners either to rescind or to enforce the sale, he says.

The complaints have even filed up as a key witness stockbroker Victor Forbinger, who is listed in the corporate records as having received a 20-percent commission, or more than P70 million, for the deal sale.

### Manila Bank roars

THE FRANCHISEE chain of Citicorp, Citibank, are praying for a rescue from Manila Bank.

According to the proprietor, the economic crisis have been made the headquarters of the shareholders of the late former President Gil A. Puyat in the Citibank, whose interests, through their Lito Puyat, were vested in the established bank.

To offset the donation, Manila Bank is being asked to buy back the Citibank stock, about 30,000 shares, at P25 each, or a 10-percent dis-

count from the 2004 book value of P200/share.

In fact, the proceeds of the sale, a little over P30 million gross, has been earmarked for the reconstruction of the collapsed church in the Cebu metropolis.

### Money-go-round

• SEC Chair Benito said his new daily prayers, given all the personal inquiries and media interviews concerning his resignation: "Grant me the patience of Job, the wisdom of Solomon and the faith of a hippopotamus."

• The Philippine embassy and various consulates in the United States plan to bring 500 bulkheads on July 15, where, for P1,500/person, the bulkheads will travel economy with Philippine Airlines and stay two nights, including at either Shangri-La and Peninsula.

The low class Ambassador others said Manila will act as host group lead.

Highlights of the Manila visit will be an audience with President Macapagal-Arroyo in Malacanan.

• India has introduced its most expensive cell phone on the market, which costs for more than P50,000 in the United States, an open-line cost of the same model under P10K.

### Heard through the grapevine

IN ASSESSING no pay days, estate receipts have supposedly been hit lower and are now causing the Manila calling grounds: NPOKs, NPOKs and the more vibrant of them, NPOKs.

(Email: [info@npo.com](mailto:info@npo.com) or [info@npo.com](mailto:info@npo.com))

# 3 banks OK P1.5-B loan for highway project

By Ronald W. Dominguez

THE ASIAN Construction Development Inc. (ACDI) yesterday announced it had signed a P1.5-billion loan with three local banks to complete its local counterpart fund for the SCLT San Luis-Clark-Tarlac Expressway Project.

The ACDI said it conducted the loan deal, which was arranged through Bancorquest Investment Corp., with Philippine National Bank, Development Bank of the Philippines and Allied Banking Corp.

Narciso Mena, ACDI president and chief executive, said in a statement the loan was a 30-month committed credit line facility convertible into five-year term loans upon drawdown.

Mena said that with the financial aspect of the SCTEP in place, the ACDI expected construction of the road to be the country's longest expressway to be on track. He said that with construction started last April, the highway is expected to be completed as

planned by the latter part of 2017.

The SCTEP has a total project cost of P12.5 billion, with a P2.1-billion loan from the Japanese government through the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) earmarked for the construction cost.

The ACDI has committed to raise the remaining P6.5 billion as counterpart fund. Of the amount, P3.1 billion would be in the form of an equity while P3.4 billion would be a loan secured through a debt facility.

Always said that once completed, the expressway would link the deep-water seaport in Subic Bay and the Mindanao Mangrove International Airport (MNAI) in Clark to facilitate the movement in the area of goods, services and people.

According to the ACDI, travel time from Clark to Subic would be cut down to 30 minutes while that between Clark and Tarlac would be pared down to about 25 minutes.

Always said the finished reduction in travel time would help contribute in reducing the cost of doing business.

## Oil crisis aggravating . . .

economic and political stability," she said. "When compared to me it is the economy, to do the right thing with those who are in better than economic situation."

Ms. Arroyo said the government's efforts to increase energy have resulted in some P1.2-billion in savings aside from the P5.5 billion saved from the National Power Corp.'s implementation of power generation and the P1.4 billion saved when the two-day workweek was implemented in April and May.

During the month, a coalition of 27 private companies and groups led by the Philippine

Chamber of Commerce and the Advertising Board presented to the President a memorandum concerning themselves to pressure energy conservation measures in their workplaces.

The signatories also urged the government to follow suit as they attacked the alarm on another oil price shock.

According to Energy Secretary Raphael Lacda, who was also present in the forum, latest data showed that the price of crude oil had reached \$80 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange while the price of Subic crude stood at \$20 a barrel.





# IMF urges government to curb excesses of state controlled firms

By Devin C. Daniles

THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND has urged the government to follow up recent studies in fiscal consolidation with more reform such as curbing the economic role of government-owned and controlled firms like the National Food Authority.

During a briefing Wednesday night, a

member of a visiting IMF mission said that although considerable progress has been made with the passage of economic reforms, additional fiscal measures are still needed to "ensure achievement of the medium-term plans to balance the budget."

The IMF mission had just wrapped up a four-point program monitoring held from June 9 to 22.

Head of mission Mounir Makhoul thanked members during the review. IMF reviews focused on the debt, which was seen as essential for a large chunk of the consolidated deficit.

The NFA is the sole agency mandated by government to import rice. Like most GOCCs, the agency has been suffering from financial losses.

Also, the IMF mission reports the

Philippines to remain under a high inflation rate despite up and down price. The IMF said that the hike in the value added tax rate would inevitably push up consumer prices.

According to Makhoul, the IMF noted the average inflation rate forecast for the country this year is 6 percent and 7 percent next year.

In the Public Economic Outlook on

June 14, 2002, the IMF had projected that inflation this year would rise to 6.6 percent but ease to 4.5 percent in 2003. But even with the old forecasts, the Philippines was still seen to post the second highest inflation rate among the fast-growing economies of Southeast Asia. Philippine economic managers, on the other hand, still expect inflation to taper off in the second half of the year.

## BIR defies court, to levy sin tax on Subic traders

By Michelle V. Ibanez

THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE said it would continue to tax traders in Subic Bay despite a court order to halt the agency's tax collection efforts. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) said it will continue to collect taxes on traders in Subic Bay despite a court order to halt the agency's tax collection efforts.

The new law for the Republic of the Philippines, which took effect in January, already clarified that Subic Bay is a free port zone.

The IRS has been busy in recent days in collecting taxes on traders in Subic Bay despite a court order to halt the agency's tax collection efforts.

The IRS has been busy in recent days in collecting taxes on traders in Subic Bay despite a court order to halt the agency's tax collection efforts.

In issuing its decision, the court cited Republic Act No. 7227, which states that Subic Bay is a free port zone.

## DOF rejects proposal to lower income tax

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE has rejected a proposal to reduce the income tax on individuals and corporations.

"There are (government) need to increase the income tax on individuals and corporations," said Finance Undersecretary General Bismarck Alonzo.

Under the National Tax Authority, an attached agency of the DOF and Treasury, the income tax on individuals and corporations is currently 15 percent.

There are several bills filed in the House seeking to reduce the income tax on individuals and corporations.

Also, the bill was necessary to provide relief to taxpayers.

Investment Funds of Wealth Builders	UNIT PRICES (in Pesos)	
	June 10, 2002	June 13, 2002
Fixed Income Fund	1,000,000	1,000,000
Equity Fund	1,000,000	1,000,000
Real Estate Fund	1,000,000	1,000,000

These investment funds are managed by the Philippine Investment Fund Corporation (PIFC).

The units are sold at a price of 1,000 pesos each.

The units are sold at a price of 1,000 pesos each.

come tax to less of all other taxes.

But Finance pointed out that the Congress could not "do anything more."

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me, whose disposable income would be greatly affected by the government's fiscal measures, including the increase in other taxes.

"In order to provide much needed relief to those income earners, the bill proposes to reduce the tax rate on their income by 10 percent," he said.

However, he said the bill would also increase the tax rate on those who are not income earners.

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## Whiff of the English . . .

But the best of the lot, as far as I am concerned, is GF's co-founder for her hard-earned reputation of the cool Spooky Monoclonal Dots, which has as its proud owner, fashion plate Angelica Lee. It's a true love affair, considering that her long white hair, from Hong Kong to Tokyo to Manila, still belongs to her. It's worth the wait, Spooky comes in a dozen blue denim colors, with eye-catching hot engine red alligator designs. It's just too cool!

### Time-out for ladies with a cause

The charity-oriented Catholic Women's Club took a break from its well-known civic and fund-raising activities by having a party.

80 impressions long, some real/fake photos on the dance floor and some of laugh

from Jerry going around a morning first. In a word, a Mass offered by Archdiocese Cardinal to families, no less, followed by the inclusion of the club's new board officers, president Linda Padua, vice president Rose Angara, secretary and vice president Rose Angara, and vice president Rose Angara, secretary and vice president Rose Angara.

Afterward, the ladies hit their last dance and had a ball!

Other people, big into their work and contributions to help of the projects that these women work hard for and support, such as the Blue Garden Village for the elderly, Tula for the Blind Foundation for street children, and the Philippine Foundation for the Blind in Legaspi.

So be it, Philippine. A little goes a long way for helping the needy.



**CWC's** last party. Hardworking women make the best for their part president Pili Angara, Vice Lopez, Malinda Alcala, Linda Padua, and of Philippine. Tula for the Blind Foundation for the elderly, Tula for the Blind Foundation for the elderly, Tula for the Blind Foundation for the elderly.



**HANTIS** Pineda, Tula for the Blind Foundation for the elderly, Tula for the Blind Foundation for the elderly.

**RENGO** Blumberg and Tula for the Blind Foundation for the elderly, Tula for the Blind Foundation for the elderly.



**HOPEFULITY** Tula for the Blind Foundation for the elderly, Tula for the Blind Foundation for the elderly, Tula for the Blind Foundation for the elderly, Tula for the Blind Foundation for the elderly.

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**Sing-along with Aegis and True Faith at the Shopwise Antipolo Driveway on June 24, 6:00 pm!**

**ANTIPOLO** M. L. Quizon Corner Circumferential Road, Brgy. San Roque  
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DEWEYER and Mega Magazine's new editor in chief Carl West. Robert Southworth, DMG's global CEO, William Rob Erickson, James Brown and Mia Leuchter.



HELEN Julia May or Maria Laurence and  
 John Edgar Brown

1543471 *Shawcross and Raymond-Lewis*

## Whiff of the English countryside in Manila

**T**HE HALLS, glamorous members of Maillie's elite set seen at the Shanghai Palace in exquisite style of the instantly English countryside, are of Calver & Eady's making new English Floral Collection.

Museum curator Miss Luschberger and designers and Mergs sang soldier Gabe's third—done with the reputation personality and classic beauty—were the perfect pair for the resident line.

"Grubbe & Evelyn create unique award-winning products with an English heritage," said Rob Mitchell, global CEO of the company who flew in especially for the event. "Grubbe and Evelyn products reflect the very best of science and nature, combining the benefits of modern technology with time-tested natural ingredients."

Cabrera & Evelyn, Philippine rats and marbling silences; pretty Ghana Laurus, complimented the "natural" charm of the brand, describing the beauty with aesthetics of both, body and literary products as "inspired by nature, which adds pleasure to the simple things in life".

Shades and elegance were the catchwords of the day, pollogues, as costume designer Samuel Langhorne Clemens focused on with his best skills. He also performed a smattering of songs from Broadway and the West End, justly suited to the audience that included Calverly & Evelyn's director for Asia Pacific, **Roger Chong**, regional manager **Mel Wong**, and marketing and communications

The Crabtree & Evelyn English Floral Collection encompasses eleven, from the left panel, 101 designs, down to the unique silhouettes of billows and tiered tea, elegant and playful pockets, signature trims with girth straps on apron waist, and broad and feminine-voiced neckline.

The flavor of the cricket cricket was notably salubriously high and, undeniably, Crickets & Frogs are delicious.

For further info, contact Diana A. Lawrence at [dianalawrence-evryls.com.ph](mailto:dianalawrence-evryls.com.ph), or Leah N. Neja, sales and marketing executive, at [leahneja-evryls.com.ph](mailto:leahneja-evryls.com.ph). Call 8806040 or fax 8138481.

WITHOUT  
BATTING  
AN EYELASH



### Marine Activities

Pharmacists Advise Users to Ignore  
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One of the world's classic luxury brands, Louis Vuitton, grew as a true exclusive purveyor of its latest leather goods collections.

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Figure 1



CBET Margaret Chung, Wende Wu, Mei Loring, Diana Lorenson, Chris Brice, Jeff and Dee Olson